

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A METHOD AND AN APPARATUS TO EXTEND THE LOGIC VOLUME MANAGER MODEL TO ALLOW DEVICE MANAGEMENT PLUG-INS

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Logical disks are provided, which are created by device managers. The logical volume manager is modified to use only logical disks. The device managers may be plug-in modules. This allows new device managers to be added to the logical volume manager at any time without changing the code in the logical volume manager.

Anything that can be made to appear as a logical disk through the use of a device manager plug-in may then be used with the logical volume manager. A device manager for network attached storage may be written allowing network attached storage devices to be treated as local disk drives by the logical volume manager, thereby allowing all of the capabilities of the logical volume manager to be used with the network attached storage devices.